



Kindergarten News

News and Notes...

- Thank you to all of the family members who volunteered to help during our Gingerbread House Making celebration. The students had a lot of fun and we couldn't have done it without you. Also, thanks to the families who sent in donations so we could purchase the needed materials for the project. We truly appreciate your support!
- A reminder from the front office...if your child is absent for any reason a note is needed to excuse his/her absence. Please send a note with your child's name, teacher's name, and reason for the absence on the day your child returns to school.
- Don't forget...we will continue to go outside unless it is too cold to do so. Make sure your child stays warm by sending him/her in a winter coat, hat, gloves, scarf, etc.

Books, Books, Books!

Please be sure to practice the little books in your child's reading bag at home each evening. After reading, help your child be responsible by safely putting the reading bags, with little books inside, back into his/her backpack. We need the little books to be returned every-day because we use them to start reading groups daily.

Also, don't forget about sending back library books. Students must turn in a library book in order to check out a new one. A reminder of the day books are to be returned to school is listed below.

Monday—Mrs. Preston

Tuesday—Miss Baisey

Wednesday—Mrs. Keary

Thursday—Miss O'Brien

Friday—Miss Doyle

**Tuscarora
Elementary School**

January 2009

Important Dates...

- January 1st and 2nd—No School for Winter Break
- January 19th—No School for MLK day
- January 20th and 21st—No School for students-Teacher Work Days

Websites to use at home...

Starfall—
www.starfall.com

Jan Brett's website—
www.janbrett.com

Book Adventure—
www.bookadventure.com

Developing Independence

We continue to work at school on building independence. Students are encouraged to use materials, turn in finished work, and solve small problems ("I need a yellow crayon. Who has a yellow crayon I can use?") appropriately. We model activities and then allow students to complete them by themselves. Students are expected to complete 2-3 step tasks (color, cut, glue) independently.

You can help your child to develop more independence at home too. Try some of the activities listed below to help your child practice this important life skill.

1. Have your child put on socks and shoes.
2. After getting on socks and shoes, practice tying shoes.
3. Teach your child how to put on coat, hats, and gloves. Don't forget to teach zipping, snapping, and buttoning coats.
4. Ask your child to unpack bookbags by taking out folders, books, and reading bags.
5. Ask your child to pack bookbags for school by putting in folders, books, and reading bags.
6. Let your child help do simple tasks around the house such as set the table for dinner, clean up toys after playing, and pick out clothes to wear to school in the morning.
7. Allow your child to help pack lunch.

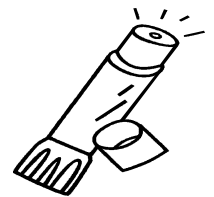
Children are always so proud when they learn to do things by themselves.



Donations

We are so thankful for all of your generosity throughout the year. We appreciate your support to provide materials for students to be successful in school. If you would like to make a donation please consider sending in an item from the list below.

- *Glue sticks—we continue to run out of glue sticks as they are used on a daily basis!*
- Tissues
- Band-aids
- Ziploc bags (all sizes)
- Tissue paper
- Dry erase markers



We are always appreciative of any donations you can make.